Private companies for Distribution of LPG

1754. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of private sector companies engaged in the supply of LPG to the consumers;

(b) whether the said companies have got the permission of Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the action taken by Government against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) Although several private agencies have issued advertisements declaring to import and sell LPG, only one company has done so till 30-11-93.

(b) and (c) They are not required to obtain any licence from the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas. However, they are required to obtain necessary clearances from statutory authorities, local bodies etc. as applicable.

Deposits of Petroleum Products in India

1755. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) how much is the deposit of petroleum products in India according to the latest survey and deposits available under the sea;

(b) the places where new deposits have been identified during this latest survey; and

(c) by when oil/gas is likely to be extracted from there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Over 5990 MMT of geological reserves of oil and oil equivalent of gas has been established in the country. Out of these about 3580 MMT of geological reserves are in the offshore areas.

(b) In 1992-93, accumulations of hydrocarbons have been found in more than 20 new prospects by ONGC and OIL in onshore parts of Upper Assam, Cambay, Krishna-Godavari and Cauvery Basins as well as in offshore parts of Bombay offshore basin, Kutch and Krishna-Godavari offshore basins.

(c) the new reserves added will be progressively brought into production in the 8th Plan period.

Acquisition of Land by Reliance Petroleum Ltd. in Gujarat

1756. DR. BAPU KALDATE: SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Reliance Petroleum Ltd. is acquiring thousands of acres of land by dubious means from the farmers in Gujarat which would render over 1000 families landless;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any inquiry into the modus operandi and legality of acquiring farmers land by Reliance Petroleum Ltd.;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what steps have been taken by the Government to safeguard the farmers' interests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (d) Government of Gujarat has informed that the land for Reliance Petroleum Ltd. is being acquired under the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, and the farmers, whose lands are being acquired, will be paid compensation according to the existing provisions of that Act.